supplies at specially sibidized prices to the people in I.T.D.P. areas and tribal majority States|Union Territories, rural employment generation programmes; nutrition programmes, etc. In addition some wheat was offered for sale to Roller Flour Mills etc. Small quantities of wheat and rice were also released for export and commodity loans, gifts etc. to other countries.

Increase in the prices of commodities being sold through fair price shops

2805. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) on how many occasions since January, 1986 the prices of foodgrains rice and wheat separately for distribution through Public Distribution System, have been enhanced through administrative order and extent of enhancement on each occasion; and

(b) the reasons therefore?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) and (b) A statement giving the Central issue prices of wheat and rice since January, 1980 is attached. (*See* below). The issue prices are enhanced from time to time, consequent upon increases in the support prices of paddy and wheat.

Statement

Central Issue Price of Rice and Wheat

I. *RICE*

(Rate Rs. per quintal)

Effective from	Common	Fine	Superfine
1-2-1986	231.00	243.00	253.00
1-10-1986	239.00	251.00	266.00
1-10-1987	239·00	264.00	279.00
25-1-1989	244.00	304.00	325.00

II *WHEAT*

Effective from	Public Distribution System
1-2-1986	190.00
1-4-1986 . . .	190.00
16-7-1986 . . .	190.00
1-5-1987	195.00
25-3-1988	204.00

Increase in the prices of Levy Sugar

2806. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) on how many occasions since January, 1986 prices of levy sugar have been enhanced through administrative orders;

(b) extent of enhancement per kilogram on each occasion; and

(c) the price of levy sugar per kilogram year-wise during the said period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) to (c) Since January, 1986 the retail issue price of levy sugar has been increased only on three occasions, *i.e.* on 15-12-86, 1.1.88 and 1-1-89. The extent of increase on each occasion is indicated below:—